

## Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 00579 021733Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00  
SAJ-01 NSC-05 OMB-01 DHA-02 ORM-02 EB-08 DODE-00 /078 W  
-----030132Z 024609 /13

R 021640Z FEB 77  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1484  
INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA  
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0579

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: NATO PFOR CSCE UR XH  
SUBJECT: DISSIDENCE IN THE USSR AND EE

REF: A. STATE 019823 NOTAL  
B. STATE 18234  
C. STATE 021699 NOTAL

SUMMARY: AT FEB 1 MEETING, POLADS EXCHANGED VIEWS  
ON IMPLICATIONS OF CURRENT DISSIDENT ACTIVITY IN THE  
SOVIET UNION AND EAST EUROPE. UK REP SUGGESTED THAT  
ALLIES WOULD NEED TO CONSIDER HOW TO APPROACH THE DIS-  
SIDENT QUESTION IN LIGHT OF BELGRADE. END SUMMARY.

1. FRENCH REP, READING FROM ANALYSIS BY FRENCH EMBASSY  
IN MOSCOW, COMMENTED THAT THE KREMLIN--IN ITS HANDLING  
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 00579 021733Z

OF THE ORLOV GROUP AND SAKHAROV'S STATEMENTS ABOUT THE  
MOSCOW METRO EXPLOSIONS--APPEARS TO BE TRYING  
TO DISCOURAGE AND DISREDIT THE DISSIDENTS. IN  
THE FRENCH EMBASSY'S VIEW, MOSCOW HAS A STRONG  
INTEREST IN TAKING A FIRM BUT NOT BLATANTLY REPRESSIVE POSITION  
VIS-A-VIS THE DISSIDENTS, SINCE THE INTENSIFICATION OF DISSIDENT  
ACTIVITY WOULD POSE SERIOUS PROBLEMS FOR THE SOVIETS AT BELGRADE.  
IN THE LONG TERM, THE FRENCH EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE KREMLIN'S  
WILL TO MAINTAIN COUNTRONL OVER THE INTERNAL SITUATION WOULD--  
IN ANY MAJOR CONFRONTATION WITHDISSIDENTS--OVERRIDE THE SOVIET

LEADERSHIP'S CONCERNS ABOUT THE IMPACT ABROAD OF REPRESSIVE ACTIONS. MOREOVER, SINCE THE DISSIDENTS ARE NOT NUMEROUS AND OCCUPY A "MARGINAL" PLACE IN SOVIET SOCIETY, THE FRENCH ANALYSIS CONCLUDES THAT THE MAIN DAMAGE TO SOVIET INTERESTS INVOLVED IN A SEVERE CRACKDOWN WOULD BE MOSCOW'S IMAGE IN THE WEST AND THAT SUCH CONSEQUENCES WOULD BE MANAGEABLE. IN CONTRAST, THE FRENCH EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE DISSIDENT SITUATION IN EAST EUROPE COULD INVOLVE MUCH LARGER RISKS FOR THOSE REGIMES.

2. UK REP CALLED ATTENTION TO US STATEMENT ON CHARTER 77 AND TO NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT'S CANCELLATION OF A VISIT TO OSLO BY THE CZECHOSLOVAK TRADE MINISTER. SUCH DEVELOPMENTS, IN UK REP'S VIEW, RAISE THE QUESTION OF HOW WESTERN GOVERNMENTS SHOULD DEAL WITH THE DISSIDENT ISSUE BEFORE THE BELGRADE MEETINGS. IN THIS CONNECTION, HE ASKED FOR BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON REASONS BEHIND NORWEGIAN DECISION TO POSTPONE CZECH MINISTER'S VISIT AND US STATEMENT ON CHARTER 77.

3. NORWEGIAN REP REPLIED THAT, IN VIEW OF EARLIER STATEMENTS BY NORWEGIAN LEADERS ABOUT CHARTER 77, IT WAS LOGICAL THAT WHEN CZECHOSLOVAK AUTHORITIES BEGAN APPLYING PRESSURE TO CHARTER 77 SIGNERS, FOLLOW UP ACTION WAS NEEDED. THE NORWEGIAN DECISION, HE SAID, WAS INTENDED AS A CLEAR DEMONSTRATION OF POLITICAL CONCERN. IN REPLY TO UK QUERY, US REP REFERRED TO SECRETARY VANCE'S STATEMENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN HIS JANUARY 31 PRESS CONFERENCE. WE ALSO CIRCULATED TEXT OF DEPARTMENT'S JANUARY CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NATO 00579 021733Z

26 STATEMENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA (REFS A AND B) AND INR REPORT ON SOVIET MOVES AGAINST ORLOV GROUP (REF C).

4. ON A PERSONAL BASIS, CANADIAN REP SUGGESTED THAT POLADS IN FUTURE USE TERM "HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS" RATHER THAN MORE PEJORATIVE SOUNDING "DISSIDENTS". CANADIAN SUGGESTION WAS FAVORABLY RECEIVED. STRAUSS-HUPE

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 30-Aug-1999 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 02-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NATO00579  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** NATO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770298/baaabbou.tel  
**Line Count:** 96  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Message ID:** a3e221cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** A. STATE 019823 NOTAL B. STATE 18234 C. STATE 021699 NOTAL  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3471734  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DISSIDENCE IN THE USSR AND EE  
**TAGS:** NATO PFOR CSCE UR XH  
**To:** STATE INFO BERLIN MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/a3e221cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009